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I will be sending a request for extension and payment separately.

17et : may 22, 27, 5

United States Patent and Trade Core Off to COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: Harold E. Dodds, In Application No. 09/755.285

Dear Mr. Dodds,

I have updated the application we discussed in our phone conversation of January 24th regarding patent application number 09/755,286:

- 1. Drawings are now separate.
- 2. I provided an abstract.
- 3. I inserted the text from the original claims 8 and 10 into claim 1.
- 4. I cancelled claims 8 and 10.
- 5. I made claims 9, 11, and 12 dependent on claim 1 (these are renumbered to 8, 9, and 10 respectively)
- 6. I added a colon after "steps of" in claim 15 (now renumbered to 13).
- 7. I replaced "according to claim 13" with "wherein a tree si constructed as a forest of trees".
- 8. I added text from claims 8 into independent claim 15, but claim 10 is applicable to linked lists rather than trees. The tree traversals in this particular context are more or less static (i.e. regular expression trees that a compiler might traverse after parsing has completed). However, I added sufficient information to indicate how additions to and deletions from the tree in the spirit of the cancelled claim 10 are accomplished.

Please feel free to call me at (831) 246-2455 or email me as dirk@coho.org if there are any issues.

Sincerely,

Dirk Coldewey